United States and if so, what was the response from United States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): Pakistan's nuclear programme was one of the issues that was discussed by Prime Minister with President Reagan on 20 October, 1987. In this context the US President urged both India and Pakistan to deal with the threat of nuclear proliferation in the region. India cannot accept any approach equating her peaceful programme with Pakistan's nuclear programme with its apparent non-peaceful dimensions.

Nuclear Programme of Pakistan

656. PROF C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have expressed their unhappiness to the Government of Pakistan in regard to their Nuclear Programme; and

(b) if so, the attitude of the Pakistan Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pakistan claims that its nuclear programme is peaceful in nature. However, the fact that Pakistan is pursuing a weapons-oriented nuclear programme is now extensively documented and well-known the world over.

Electoral reforms

657. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to bring about electoral reforms in the country;

(b) if so, what are the proposed reforms; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to shift the reservations from one constituency to another?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The Election Commission has formulated certain proposals for electoral reforms which are under the consideration of the Government. A statement regarding such proposals was laid on the Table of the House in reply to Starred Question No. 181 for 17th November, 1986. Another statement setting out some more proposals received from the commission was also laid on the Table of the House in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 91 for 27th July, 1987.

(c) This proposal is linked with the proposal for delimitation of constituencies which is part of the comprehensive proposals under consideration.

Facilities to Office-bearers of Recognised Service Association of Central Government Employees

658. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some facilities/benefits/immunities are granted to Office-bearers of recognised service associations of Central Government employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the dates since when these have been in force; and

(d) the earlier provisions in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Statement is enclosed.

Statement

	Existing	*Earlier provision*
Facility as an office bearer of the Association/Union	1 *Special Casual Leave* (a) special casual leave upto a maximum of 20 days in a Calender year for participation in the activities of the associations.	1 In early 50's there was no uniformity in regard to entitlement of special casual leave in different departments. While in Railways there was no upper limit, both in the P & T and Defence it was upto 20 days in a year.
	(b) special casual leave upto 10 days in a calender year admissible to outstations delegates/members of Executive Committee of recognised all-India association/federation to attend its meetings.	
	(c) special casual leave upto 5 days in a calender year to local delegates/members of Executive Committees of all recognised associations/unions/federations for attending meeting of the associations/unions/federations.	In other cases, no special casual leave was granted for this purpose. In January, 1960 orders were issued for grant of special casual leave upto a maximum period of 10 days in a calender year in such of the Govt. Departments where there was no provision earlier.
NOTE :	Those who would be availing special casual leave in their capacity as office bearers under (a) above, are not entitled to avail of casual leave separately in terms of (b) and (c), in their capacity as delegates/Executive members (since April, 1969).	
	2 *Facility of transfer to the Hqrs. of the appropriate Head of administration* : Instructions were issued in April, 1969 that the chief Executive as defined in the Constitution of the association union/federation *or* where the Chief Executive has not been specifically defined the General Secretary may be brought on transfer to the Hqrs. or any other office under his control at the Hqrs. of the appropriate Head of administration as far as possible. It was also decided that in such of the Govt. Departments/offices where a different practice was being followed earlier, the earlier practice, if not less favourable may continue. (since April, 1969)	2 No such formal provision was earlier in existence
	3. *Govt. employees as union functionaries on foreign service terms*: -- A decision was taken in May, 1961 that the Central Govt. employees in respect of whom requests are made by the recognised service association/unions may be released to work as full time union functionaries on foreign service terms. (Since May, 1961).	3 No such formal provision was earlier in existance.